

Message Text

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FODAG

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: FAO, UN, OCON

SUBJ: FAO DEBATE ON AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD CORPS

REF: (A) ROME 439 (B) ROME 19687 (C) STATE 309828

1. FODAG SUMMARIZES BELOW THE JUST-ISSUED VERBATIM RECORD OF THE SHORT DEBATE AT THE CLOSING MUNITES OF THE FAO CONFERENCE COMMISSION II ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DG TO STUDY THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD CORPS. SEE REFTTEL(B) FOR LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION. IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD CORPS WAS PUT FORWARD BY AMB. YOUNG IN HIS MCDUGALL LECTURE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FAO CONFERENCE AND DISCUSSED IN CORRIDORS DURING THE CONFERENCE. IT WAS NOT DISCUSSED BY COMMISSION II UNTIL THE LAT DAY AFTER THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE HAD PREPARED COMMISSION II'S REPORT. ON THE LAST EVENING OF COMMISSION II DEBATE, THE SUBJECT CAME UP UNDER 'OTHER BUSINESS' IN THE FORM OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY TANZANIA.

2. AMB. WADDA OF GAMBIA BEGAN THE DISCUSSION BY ASKING THE RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE COSPONSORING AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

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3. AMB. BRITO OF BRAZIL THEN INTERVENED TO SAY THAT HE HADN'T STUDIED THE MATTER AS IT HADN'T BEEN DISCUSSED BEFORE, AND HE DID NOT THINK THE IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD CORPS WA QUITE CLEAR. HE NOTED UNEMPLOYMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND DOUBTED WHETHER THE FOOD CORPS OF UNSKILLED YOUTH WOULD BE A REAL ADDITION TO THE MEASURES AND INSTRUMENTS TO PROMOTE

DEVELOPMENT. HE CONCLUDED BY ASKING THE COMMISSION NOT TO BE BUREAUCRATIC BY CREATING A GROUP TO STUDY THE IDEA.

4. OROZCO OF MEXICO ALSO QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR A RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH HAD NOT BEEN THOROUGHLY DEBATED.

5. CAMARA OF GUINEA RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WAS AN AFRICAN RESOLUTION, BUT HE COULDN'T TAKE A POSITION ON IT BEYOND HIS GOVERNMENT WAS AGAINST VOLUNTARY GROUPS OPERATING IN GUINEA.

6. WADDA THEN BLASTED BRITO, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77, FOR OPPOSING AN AFRICAN GROUP RESOLUTION. HE EMPHASIZED THE RESOLUTION WAS TO STUDY AN IDEA WHICH AMB. YOUNG DRAMATIZED. THE FAO SHOULD CARRY OUT THE STUDY WITH OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS.

7. MORALES CARBALLO OF CUBA THEN DESCRIBED THE RESOLUTION AS TOO EARLY, UNCLEAR, AND SAID THAT THE OPPOSED IT NOW.

8. MADALLALI OF TANZANIA, AS SPONSOR OF THE RESOLUTION, EMPHASIZED IT WAS ASKING FOR A STUDY AND SHOULD BE APPROVED.

9. MAHDI OF INDIA SUGGESTED THE REFERENCE TO THE FOOD CORPS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT ON THE MCDUGALL LECTURE WITHOUT A RESOLUTION OR OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH.
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10. BOYLE OF THE U.S. SUPPORTED THE TANZANIAN PROPOSAL. HE POINTED OUT THE IDEA WAS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CORPS OF SKILLED, TRAINED VOLUNTEERS. HE NOTED THE SUPPORT THE IDEA HAD IN THE PLENARY AND STRESSED THE RESOLUTION WAS FOR A STUDY ONLY.

11. BRITO INTERVENED TO SAY HE HAD NOT SPOKEN PREVIOUSLY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77. FURTHER, HE WAS NOT CLEAR OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE FOOD CORPS TO THE UN VOLUNTEERS. THINGS LIKE THIS NEEDED TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE ACTING.

12. VIGNAUD OF ARGENTINA EXPLAINED HIS COUNTRY COULD ACCEPT THE IDEA, BUT MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER TO PUT IT IN A PARAGRAPH OF THE REPORT RATHER THAN A RESOLUTION.

13. MADALLALI AGAIN STRESSED THE NEED FOR A STUDY OF THE FOOD CORPS IDEA. HE COULD ACCEPT THE REQUEST FOR A STUDY IN A PARAGRAPH OF THE REPORT RATHER THAN A SEPARATE RESOLUTION.

14. THE CHAIRMAN, DAHL OF NORWAY, THEN GAVELED THROUGH THE IDEA OF ARGENTINA AND TANZANIA DRAFTING AN AGREED PARAGRAPH,

REFTEL (A).

15. AFTER THE GAVELING MONGOLIA EXPRESSED FOR THE RECORD HIS SUPPORT OF THE CUBAN AND MEXICAN POSITION. HUNGARY SAID IT WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SPEAK ON THE MATTER BUT DIDN'T EXPRESS A POSITION.

16. COMMENT: FODAG NOTES DURING THE DEBATE INDICATED MORE CLEAR COMMUNIST BLOC OPPOSITION THAN IS SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL VERBATIM SUMMARIZED ABOVE.GARDNER

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